

BEFORE THE NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING OF)
ADVICE NOTICE NO. 69 BY SOCORRO)
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.)
) Case No. 18-00383-UT
SOCORRO ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.,)
APPLICANT)
_____)

**STAFF'S FIRST SET OF INTERROGATORIES AND REQUEST
FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS TO
SOCORRO ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.**

Instructions and Definitions
For Staff Interrogatories and
Requests for Production of Documents

TO: Socorro Electric Cooperative, Inc.
c/o Lorna Wiggins
Wiggins, Williams, Wiggins, P.C.
1803 Rio Grande Blvd. NW
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87104

INTRODUCTION.

The Utility Division Staff of the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission requests, pursuant to 1.2.2.25 NMAC, that you answer the following Interrogatories and produce all documents which are responsive in any way to the Interrogatories or in any way to the specific Requests for Production of Documents. Your responses must be made in accordance with the following instructions and definitions. If you have any questions about any of the Interrogatories or Requests for Production, please contact the undersigned Staff Counsel. Please serve responses to the undersigned Staff Counsel, Milo Chavez, Gabriella Dasheno, and Beverly Eschberger at the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission, 1120 Paseo de Peralta, P.O. Box 1269, Santa Fe, NM 87504, and have the certificate of service filed with the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission Records Bureau at the same address.

DEFINITIONS:

1. "SEC," "Socorro," and "the cooperative" refers to Socorro Electric Cooperative, Inc. and includes, but is not limited to, any and all of its attorneys, officers, consultants, agents, employees, directors, representatives, officials, departments, divisions, subsidiaries or predecessors.

2. "Staff" means the Staff of the Utility Division of the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission; "Commission" means the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission.

3. "And/Or" will be construed disjunctively or conjunctively as necessary so that the scope of these interrogatories is as broad as possible and includes any information which might be construed to be outside their scope.

4. "Agreement" means any contract, written or oral, or any non-contractual understanding.

5. "Communication" is to be construed broadly and includes, but is not limited to, any oral statement, dialogue, telephone conversation, discussion or any conversation between or among persons by any means whatsoever.

6. "Date" means the exact day, month and year, if ascertainable, or if not, the best approximation of the day, month and year available in relation to other events.

7. To "describe" means to relate as completely as possible each and every act, omission, incident, event, condition, circumstance, or thing relating directly or indirectly to the subject of the description, including all pertinent dates.

8. The term "document" is to be construed broadly and liberally, includes "correspondence" and means every recording or reproduction, including visual or auditory recordings or reproductions, of any information including, but not limited to, letters, messages, notices, memorandums, photographs, drawings, telegrams, handwritten notes, books, periodicals, pamphlets, exhibits, pleadings, calendars, canceled checks, schedules, tax returns, telegrams, telexes, charts, maps, minutes, logs, graphs, financial statements, computer tapes, computer printouts, computer disks, and microfilm, and any other records of conversations, meetings, conferences or other communications as well as reproductions or copies of the documents if the original is not available so long as the copy is an identical duplicate of the original document.

9. "Employee" includes your employees, consultants or agents, including, but not limited to independent and/or consulting firms retained by you, from and after the time this case was docketed by the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission.

10. "Explain" means to make known in detail, to make clear the cause or reason of and account for each act, omission, incident, event, condition, circumstance, decision, and/or thing relating directly or indirectly to the subject of the explanation, including all pertinent dates.

11. "Identification of a document" means to state, with respect to each document, as appropriate, (a) the date of the document, (b) the title of the document, (c) by whom and for whom the document was written or prepared, (d) to whom the document was addressed or delivered, (e) the general subject matter of the document, (f) the identity of the person having custody of the original of the document if a copy is provided and, (g) if any document was once

in your possession but is not now, the present location of the document and the name and address of the person who has possession of the original of the document.

12. "Identification of a person" means stating his full name, business address, telephone number, present position, and prior connection or association with any party to the proceeding.

13. "Person" means every natural person, corporation, partnership, association, joint venture, cooperative, municipality, commission, governmental body, agency or other applicable entity.

14. "Records" includes the singular and the plural and means any regular, formal or informal, official or unofficial, memorandum, document or written preservation of any events, actions taken or rejected, decisions, and details relating to the subject matter of the interrogatory and your response. A reproduction or copy of the original will suffice only if the original is not available and if the copy is an identical duplicate of the original. A statement of the substance of the record will suffice only if a copy of the original is not available. If you submit either a copy of the original or a statement of the substance of the record, please explain in detail why the original or a copy is not available.

15. Whenever appropriate in order to bring within the scope of each Interrogatory or Request for Production all responses which might otherwise be considered beyond the scope of the Interrogatory or Request for Production, (a) the singular form of a word should be interpreted as plural and the plural form of a word should be interpreted as singular, (b) the use of the verb in any tense will be construed as the use of the verb in any other appropriate tense, and (c) the masculine will be deemed to include the feminine and/or neuter and the feminine and/or neuter will be deemed to include the masculine.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Interrogatories must be answered with particularity and in detail.
2. Interrogatories must be answered separately and fully in writing under oath within fifteen (15) days after service.
3. Interrogatories must be signed by the person upon whose personal knowledge responses are based or who helped in any way in answering these Interrogatories.
4. You must provide the names of any other persons upon whose personal knowledge responses are based or who helped in any way in answering these Interrogatories.
5. In making your answers, you must produce all relevant documents and data by attachment or by identifying the documents which relate to your answers. You must also clearly identify each Interrogatory to which the document relates.

6. These Interrogatories are continuing in nature and in the event any information provided in an answer is changed or supplemented by future developments or other factors, you must file appropriate supplemental answers as required by NMAC 1.2.2.25.I NMAC.

7. In answering these Interrogatories and Requests for Production you should furnish all information which is in your possession, custody or control including, but not limited to, information from any files, records, or documents in the possession of your attorneys, consultants, staff, accountants, experts, employees, former employees, and other agents.

8. These Interrogatories should be answered based on your personal knowledge, the personal knowledge of your attorneys, consultants, staff, accountants, experts, employees, former employees, and any other agents as appropriate or available and with reference to the sources described above.

9. If the Respondent is not a witness who has filed written direct testimony, please indicate which of the company's witnesses will be prepared to answer these questions on the stand.

10. In addition to a hard copy, please provide an electronic copy of your responses in Microsoft Word. Where responses are prepared using spreadsheet software, please provide an electronic copy in Microsoft Excel format.

11. If after exercising due diligence you are unable to answer any Interrogatory or to produce any document requested, you must explain your inability in detail.

12. If you object to any Interrogatory or Request for Production, you may serve written objections on Staff as provided in 1.2.2.25.E NMAC and 1.2.2.25.J NMAC, identifying the subject matter objected to and stating with particularity the reasons for the objections. An objection must include copies or complete restatements of the interrogatory or interrogatories objected to and a description of the facts and circumstances and the legal authority purported to justify the objection as required by 1.2.2.24 NMAC. In addition, the objections and the answers must be contained in separate pleadings with each clearly identified as an objection or answer. The service of an objection will not excuse you from answering the remaining Interrogatories or responding to the remaining Requests for Production for which no objection is stated.

Please provide the following:

QUESTION STAFF/SEC 1-1:

Please provide copies of all discovery responses served in this case.

RESPONSE:

QUESTION STAFF/SEC 1-2:

Referencing Herrera Direct, p. 4, lines 12-17:

Please identify with specificity the actions taken by SEC that constitute “careful management of costs to provide service.”

RESPONSE:

QUESTION STAFF/SEC 1-3:

Referencing Herrera Direct, p. 5, lines 4-6:

- a. Please provide 6 years of data supporting the assertion that operating controllable expenses have been increasing over this period.
- b. Please provide 6 years of data supporting the assertion that kWh energy sales have been decreasing over this period.

RESPONSE:

QUESTION STAFF/SEC 1-4:

Referencing Herrera Supplemental Direct, p. 4, lines 17-18:

What are “adequate” Times Interest Earned Ratios (TIER) and Debt Service Coverage Ratios (DCS)?

RESPONSE:

QUESTION STAFF/SEC 1-5:

Referencing Herrera Supplemental Direct, pp. 9-10, Mr. Herrera identifies the current TIER, DSC, OTIER and ODSC as of December 31, 2018.

- a. Please provide the audited end of year TIER, DSC, OTIER and ODSC for each of 2013 through 2017.
- b. Please provide the audited December 31, 2018 TIER, DSC, OTIER and ODSC as as soon as they become available.

RESPONSE:

QUESTION STAFF/SEC 1-6:

Referencing Herrera Supplemental Direct, p. 4, lines 6-18:

Please provide the following information about the consideration by Socorro’s Board of Trustees (“Board”) of the rate changes proposed in this case:

- a. The date(s) of all Board meetings when the proposed rate changes were presented and discussed
- b. The minutes of all Board meetings when the proposed rate changes were presented and discussed

- c. Copies of all materials provided to the Board in support of the presentation and discussion of the proposed rate changes to the Board.

RESPONSE:

QUESTION STAFF/SEC 1-7:

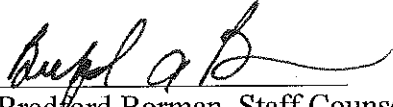
Please provide the following information about the consideration by Socorro's Board of the Cost of Service of Study ("COSS") performed in support of this case:

- a. The date(s) of all Board meetings when the COSS was presented and discussed
b. The minutes of all Board meetings when the COSS was presented and discussed
c. Copies of all materials provided to the Board in support of the presentation and discussion of the COSS to the Board.

RESPONSE:

Respectfully Submitted,

NM Public Regulation Commission
Utility Division Staff


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FILED IN OFFICE OF

APR 11 2019

NM PUBLIC REGULATION COMM
RECORDS MANAGEMENT BUREAU

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I CERTIFY that on this date I sent, to the parties and individuals listed here and in the manners specified below, a true and correct copy of the **Staff's First Set of Interrogatories and Request for Production of Documents to Socorro Electric Cooperative, Inc.**

Via Email to:

Nann Winter	nwinter@stelznerlaw.com ;	Davon Murrietta	tiara-jojola@yahoo.com ;
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DATED this April 11, 2019.

NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION


Elizabeth Ramirez, Law Clerk

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